

**Amendments to the Specification:**

In the Specification, please delete the term --Description-- at page 1 line 1 before the title.

In the Specification, please add the section heading and paragraph at page 1 line 7, after the title, as follows:

**--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

This application is the US National Stage of International Application No. PCT/EP2004/051732, filed August 6, 2004 and claims the benefit thereof. The International Application claims the benefits of European application No. 03018496.4 EP filed August 14, 2003, both of the applications are incorporated by reference herein in their entirety.--

In the Specification, please add the section heading and paragraph at page 1 line 7, after the newly added CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS section, as follows:

**--FIELD OF INVENTION**

The present invention relates to a method for aggregating incoming packets into optical bursts and an edge node apparatus for an optical burst switched network.--

In the Specification, please add the section heading at page 1 line 7, after the newly added FIELD OF INVENTION section, as follows:

**--BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--**

In the Specification, please add the section heading at page 2 line 4, as follows:

**--SUMMARY OF INVENTION--**

In the Specification, please amend the paragraph at page 2 lines 11-12, as follows:  
This object is achieved by the features recited in ~~claim 1, 4 and 8~~ the independent claims.

In the Specification, please amend the paragraph at page 3 lines 14-15, as follows:  
Further developments of the invention are identified in ~~subclaims~~the dependent claims.

In the Specification, please add the section heading at page 3 line 17, as follows:

**Serial No. Not Yet Assigned**  
**Atty. Doc. No. 2003P12082WOUS**

**--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--**

In the Specification, please add the section heading at page 3 line 32, as follows:

**--DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF INVENTION--**